AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A data processing system, the system comprising:

~~A~~a standardized data representation that is encoded on a computer-readable storage medium and that represents an object-relational data model~~, the standardized data representation configured to support an automatic derivation of a dimensional data model that corresponds to the object-relational data model.~~; and

a processing engine that processes the standardized representation and automatically derives, based on information in the standardized representation, a dimensional model that corresponds to the object-relational data model.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~standardized data representation~~system of claim 1, wherein the standardized data representation is a specification of ~~enables~~ the object-relational data model ~~to be specified and~~ decorated with metadata so as to support the derivation of the dimensional model.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~standardized data representation~~system of claim 1, wherein the standardized data representation includes a description of objects and object relationships reflected in the object-relational data model.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~standardized data representation~~system of claim 1, wherein the standardized data representation includes a description of persistent data store mappings associated with the object-relational data model.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~standardized data representation~~system of claim 1, wherein the standardized data representation includes a description of at least one focal point that represents a point of analysis indicated in association with data in the object-relational data model.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~standardized data representation~~system of claim 1, wherein the standardized data representation includes:

a description of objects and object relationships reflected in the object-relational data model; and

a description of persistent data store mappings associated with the object-relational data model.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~standardized data representation~~system of claim 7, wherein the standardized data representation includes a description of at least one focal point that represents a point of analysis indicated in association with data in the object-relational data model.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~standardized data representation~~system of claim 1, wherein the standardized representation comprises a description of at least one data element selected from a group consisting of a class from the object-relational data model, a data member associated with a class from the object-relational data model, a collection of object-relational mappings that specify how data is retrieved from a relational database, a field that uniquely identifies a class from the object-relational data model, an association relationship indicator that identifies a relationship among classes in the object-relational data model, a composition relationship indicator that identifies a relationship among classes in the object-relational data model, and a measure that identifies an interesting numerical value used for generation of the dimensional model.

10. (Currently Amended) A data processing system, comprising:

a tagged format data schema that is encoded on a computer-readable storage medium and that represents an object-relational data model~~, the tagged format data schema being configured to support an automatic derivation of a dimensional data model that corresponds to the object-relational data model.~~; and

a processing engine that processes the tagged format data schema and automatically derives,

based on information in the schema, a dimensional model that corresponds to the object-relational data model.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 10, wherein the schema includes a tag used to indicate a class in the object-relational data model.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 10, wherein the schema includes a tag for indicating a data member associated with a class in the object-relational data model.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 10, wherein the schema includes ~~means for indicating~~an indication of a collection of object-relational mappings that specify how a data member associated with a class in the object-relational data model can be filled with data retrieved from at least one table in a relational database.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 10, wherein the schema includes a tag for indicating a key field that uniquely identifies a class included in the object-relational data model.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 10, wherein the schema includes a tag for indicating a name field that uniquely identifies an instance of a class included in the object-relational data model.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 10, wherein the schema includes a tag for indicating an association relationship among multiple classes in the object-relational data model.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 10, wherein the schema includes a tag for indicating a composition relationship among multiple classes in the object-relational data model.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ system of claim 10, wherein the schema includes a tag for indicating a measure, a measure being an interesting numerical value used for generation of the dimensional model.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ system of claim 10, wherein the schema enables the object-relational data model to be specified and decorated with metadata so as to support the derivation of the dimensional model.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ system of claim 10, wherein the schema is configured to be processed by a processing engine that is adapted to autonomously derive the dimensional model.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ system of claim 10, wherein the schema includes a description of objects and object relationships reflected in the object-relational data model.

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ system of claim 10, wherein the schema includes a description of persistent data store mappings associated with the object-relational data model.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ system of claim 10, wherein the schema includes a description of at least one focal point that represents a point of analysis indicated in association with data in the object-relational data model.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ system of claim 10, wherein the schema includes:

_____a description of objects and object relationships reflected in the object-relational data model; and

_____a description of persistent data store mappings associated with the object-relational data model.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 24, wherein the schema further comprises a description of at least one focal point that represents a point of analysis indicated in association with data in the object-relational data model.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 10, wherein the schema comprises a description of at least one data element selected from a group consisting of a class from the object-relational data model, a data member associated with a class from the object-relational data model, a collection of object-relational mappings that specify how data is retrieved from a relational database, a field that uniquely identifies a class from the object-relational data model, an association relationship indicator that identifies a relationship among classes in the object-relational data model, a composition relationship indicator that identifies a relationship among classes in the object-relational data model, and a measure that identifies an interesting numerical value used for generation of the dimensional model.

27. (Currently Amended) A data processing system, comprising:

~~A~~an XML data schema that is encoded on a computer-readable storage medium and that represents an object-relational data model~~, the XML data schema being configured to support an automatic derivation of a dimensional data model that corresponds to the object-relational data model.~~; and

a processing engine that processes the XML data schema and automatically derives, based on information in the schema, a dimensional model that corresponds to the object-relational data model.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 27, wherein the schema includes a tag used to indicate a class in the object-relational data model.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 27, wherein the schema includes a tag

for indicating a data member associated with a class in the object-relational data model.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 27, wherein the schema includes ~~means for indicating a~~ an indication of a collection of object-relational mappings that specify how a data member associated with a class in the object-relational data model can be filled with data retrieved from at least one table in a relational database

31. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 27, wherein the schema includes a tag for indicating a key field that uniquely identifies a class included in the object-relational data model.

32. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 27, wherein the schema includes a tag for indicating a name field that uniquely identifies an instance of a class included in the object-relational data model.

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 27, wherein the schema includes a tag for indicating an association relationship among multiple classes in the object-relational data model.

34. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 27, wherein the schema includes a tag for indicating a composition relationship among multiple classes in the object-relational data model.

35. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 27, wherein the schema includes a tag for indicating a measure, a measure being an interesting numerical value used for generation of the dimensional model.

36. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 27, wherein the schema enables the object-relational data model to be specified and decorated with metadata so as to support the derivation of the dimensional model.

37. (Currently Amended) The ~~schema system~~ of claim 27, wherein the schema comprises a description of at least one data element selected from a group consisting of a class from the object-relational data model, a data member associated with a class from the object-relational data model, a collection of object-relational mappings that specify how data is retrieved from a relational database, a field that uniquely identifies a class from the object-relational data model, an association relationship indicator that identifies a relationship among classes in the object-relational data model, a composition relationship indicator that identifies a relationship among classes in the object-relational data model, and a measure that identifies an interesting numerical value used for generation of the dimensional model.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Canceled)

40. (New) An extensible system for supporting generation of a dimensional data model, the system comprising:

a driver for receiving source data and pre-processing it into a format consistent with a model definition schema; and

a processing engine for receiving data formatted to be consistent with the model definition schema, and for generating a corresponding dimensional data model.

41. (New) The system of claim 38, wherein the processing engine is a translation engine configured to receive data formatted to be consistent with the model definition schema, and further configured to produce a customized corresponding dimensional data model.